

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An enclosed motor vehicle, particularly a van, station wagon, or an SUV, having a vehicle body with an upright rear end and a roof extending over a vehicle interior back to said upright rear end, said rear end having a loading opening extending up to said roof and said roof having an opening extending back to said upright rear end, and movable covers for closing said roof opening and extending at least over a rear loading space of said motor vehicle, said removable roof cover including at least a rear roof part having one end supported pivotally by pivotal support means on said vehicle body at one end thereof for permitting tilting of said rear roof part upwardly into an inclined position so as to facilitate loading of said space and a drive mechanism (15) pivotally connected to said rear roof part and including releasable coupling means permitting uncoupling said rear roof part from said pivotal support means for transferring said rear roof part into an upright position in the interior of said motor vehicle.

2. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said coupling means include a receiver (23) connected to one of said rear roof part (6) and said vehicle body (18) and a support pin 24 mounted to the other of said vehicle body (18) and said rear roof part (6) for engagement by said receiver (23) and pivotally supporting said rear roof part on a vehicle body-stationary pivot axis (22) but permitting disengagement of said receiver (23) and said support pin (24) when

said rear roof part (6) is in a predetermined angular position.

3. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 2, wherein said receiver 23 includes a guide slot (23) so as to be slidably engaged by said support pin (24).

4. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 2, wherein said drive mechanism (15) comprises a four-link operating linkage (16) and operating levers (17) for actuating said rear roof part (6).

5. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 4, wherein said four-link operating linkage (16) includes two operating arms (28, 29) pivotally supported with one end thereof on said vehicle body at spaced support points (32, 33) and being pivotally connected at their opposite ends to a coupling lever (27), which is pivotally connected to said rear roof part (6).

6. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 5, wherein said coupling means of said four-link operating linkage (16) is, in the closed position of said rear vehicle roof part (6), arranged co-axially with the pivotal support means for said rear vehicle roof part (6).

7. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 5, wherein said coupling lever includes a lever end (26) projecting from said operating arms (29, 28) toward said rear roof part (6) and is pivotally connected thereto at said coupling means.

8. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 7, wherein said operating levers (17) comprise two arms (34, 37) which are pivotally interconnected and one (37) of said two arms (34, 37) is pivotally supported on said vehicle body whereas the other (34) is pivotally connected to said rear roof part (6) at a pivot joint (35), which is disposed in spaced relationship from said rear roof part pivot axis (45).

9. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 8, wherein said coupling lever (27) has a length corresponding about to the distance between said roof part pivot joint (35) of said other arm (34) and said rear roof part pivot axis (45) and said lever end (26) is angled backwardly toward said rear roof part pivot axis (45) when the rear roof part is closed.

10. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 9, wherein said coupling lever end (26) is so angled backwardly that, in the tilted loading position of said rear roof part (6) the angled lever end (26) extends about in the same direction as the rear roof part (26).

11. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 9, wherein the section of said coupling lever (27) between the connecting points (30, 31) thereof to the operating arms (28, 29) extends in the open position of said rear roof part (6) in the longitudinal direction of said rear roof part (6).

12. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 7, wherein said lever end (26) of said coupling lever (27) is pivotally connected to said rear roof part (6) at said coupling means, said lever end (26) remaining connected to said rear roof part (6) at said coupling means during transfer of

said rear roof part (6) into the fully open position in which said rear roof part (6) is disengaged from said pivotal support means on said vehicle.

13. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 11, wherein said coupling lever (27) forms a stop for said rear roof part (6) in the loading position thereof and for the remainder of its movement to and from the fully open position of the rear roof part (6).

14. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 5, wherein a line defined by said spaced support points (32, 33) extends about parallel to a line defined by the connecting points (30, 31) of opposite ends of the operating arms (28, 29) to said coupling lever (27).

15. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 14, wherein an operating device is connected between said vehicle body and one of said operating levers (17) for pivoting said rear roof part (6) between the closed and the loading positions, said operating linkage (16) including said operating arms (28, 29) remaining stationary during movement of said rear roof part (6) between the closed and the loading position thereof.

16. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said open position of said rear roof part (6) in the interior of the vehicle said rear roof part (6) is disposed in spaced relationship from the rear end (13) of the vehicle and forms a separation structure between a front end wall for the rear loading area of the vehicle.

17. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein, in the open position of the rear roof part (6), the rear roof part (6) is disposed in the interior of the vehicle adjacent the rear end (13) thereof.

18. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein, in the open position, said rear roof part (6) is disposed in the vehicle interior in an upright position.

19. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said vehicle roof (4) includes a front roof part (5) which is movable in the longitudinal direction of the vehicle into an overlapping position with the rear roof part (6).

20. An enclosed motor vehicle according to claim 19, wherein in said overlapping position said front roof part (5) is inserted into said rear roof part (6).